

SECRET

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OLC 72-0228

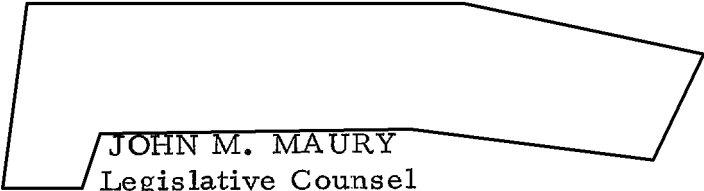
24 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate  
Armed Services Committee, Re DDCI Appointment

Today I called Mr. Braswell to alert him to the fact that Ben Welles, of the New York Times, was trying to run down a story to the effect that Senator Stennis was opposing General Walters' nomination as DDCI and felt that the position should be filled by a civilian. I told Braswell that I had pleaded ignorance of the whole matter, but I thought Braswell should know that Welles was trying to run the story down. Braswell said he knew of nowhere Welles would have gotten the story on the Hill, and he assumed that it must have come from the White House. I said that the problem of the nomination had been mentioned at an LIG meeting where representatives of several agencies were present, so this was a good bet. Braswell said he had not discussed the matter recently with Senator Stennis, and apparently Senator Stennis "didn't seem particularly worried about it" at this time.

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JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Original - O&M DDCI

1 - Sen. Armed. Services

1 - Chrono

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OLC 72-0227

24 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Call from Ben Welles re Nomination of DDCI

1. This morning Ben Welles, of the New York Times, called to ask if I could have lunch. I said I was leaving shortly on an out of town trip. He said he was calling with regard to information he had received from a reliable source to the effect that General Walters' nomination was being held up as a result of opposition from Senator Stennis, who opposed any military man for the position. I said I had no such information. Welles asked why the nomination had been held up so long. I pointed out this was a matter in which the President and Dr. Kissinger were interested and they were occupied with other things. I said the only thing I knew about the nominee or the nomination was from the rumor mill.

2. Welles asked if Senator Stennis had been in touch with the White House on the matter. I said I had no idea what, if anything, might have passed between Stennis and the White House. He asked whether there wasn't "considerable feeling" that the DDCI should be a civilian. I said I had heard the case argued both ways, but certainly there were good reasons for a military man in the position, since much of our work involved coordination with the military and dealt with military subjects. I said previous military incumbents had made an outstanding contribution, and I personally thought that the choice should be made on the qualifications of the individual rather than whether he was military or civilian.

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JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Original - File

- 1 - DCI
- 1 - Ex/Dir
- 1 - Mr. Thuermer
- 1 - Chrono

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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OLC 72-0208

22 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Conversation with Secretary Laird

1. The Director told me today that in a phone conversation this afternoon he had reported to Secretary Laird his meetings last week with Senators John Stennis and Margaret Chase Smith at which time he had told them of General Walters' impending nomination to be DDCI and summarized for them General Walters' qualifications. The Director explained to Laird that he wanted Laird's advice on what if anything should be said to Senator Stuart Symington, noting that Stennis had said he thought there was no need to brief Symington. Laird agreed, commenting that the Director was "in good shape" and that the next thing to do was to move ahead with the nomination. He said Walters was available as of 1 March 1972 and suggested the nomination might as well be presented to the Hill immediately.

2. The Director demurred, commenting that there might be certain problems regarding the precise responsibilities of the new DDCI, and said he would rather discuss it with Dr. Kissinger upon his return from China.

3. The Director asked Laird if he knew Admiral Moorer had mentioned the nomination to Stennis. Laird first said he had known of it, but then explained that he had heard Dr. Kissinger ask Moorer to take the nomination up with Stennis but he didn't know if Moorer had done so. Laird said he opposed the nomination being discussed by Moorer, but Kissinger argued since Walters was a military man it was appropriate for Moorer to raise the matter with Stennis.

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JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Original - O&M DDCI  
1 - Sen. Stennis  
1 - Sen. Smith  
1 - Chrono

SECRET [REDACTED]

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**SECRET** 

OLC 72-0226

22 February 1972

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Conversations with Senators John Stennis  
and Margaret Chase Smith re General Walters

1. Today the Director told me that, in accordance with instructions from the White House, he had called on Senator Stennis on Thursday, 17 February 1972, and Senator Smith on Friday, 18 February 1972, to inform them of General Walter's impending nomination as DDCI.

2. Senator Stennis asked the Director whether he thought General Walters would be qualified to succeed to the position of DCI. The Director said he couldn't answer that question until he had gotten better acquainted with him and worked with him. However the Director said he had met General Walters and been favorably impressed; that Walters had a distinguished record in intelligence, with extensive attache service in Brazil, France and Italy; had carried out a number of sensitive special assignments; and was fluent in several European languages. Senator Stennis said he "felt better" about the situation and suggested that the Director brief Senator Smith. In response to the Director's question, Senator Stennis said he did not recommend that the Director brief Senator Stuart Symington, remarking that "I don't owe him anything."

3. The next day the Director briefed Senator Smith along the same lines. She seemed to find General Walter's nomination at least acceptable, but indicated she was not happy with the way she had been treated by the White House staff.

4. The Director told me that he was in a dilemma as to how to handle Senator Symington, and before deciding what if anything he should do about the matter he wanted to talk to Secretary Laird and get guidance as to the Administration's wishes.

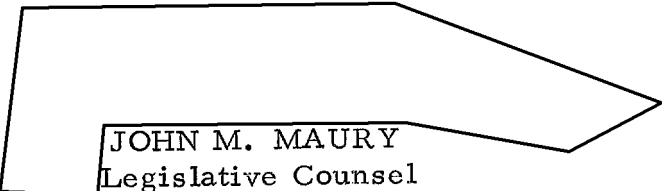
## Distribution:

Subject - O&amp;M DDCI

1 - Sen. Stennis

1 - Sen. Smith

1 - OLC Chrono

  
JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel**SECRET** 

DDCI

SECRET

OLC 72-0153

4 February 1972

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate  
Armed Services Committee, re DDCI Appointment

Today I asked Mr. Braswell whether they had heard anything from the White House in response to Chairman Stennis' letter to the President sometime ago on the above subject, or whether they had any indication of a nomination being forwarded to them in the near future. Mr. Braswell said the Chairman's letter had never been answered and that no one in the Administration had ever discussed the problem with them except that on one occasion Braswell understood Admiral Moorer had mentioned it to Senator Stennis. Braswell said he was not present at the time, but he understood from Stennis that Moorer had referred to General Walters as "our man" and indicated that Walters had the support of the Defense Department. Braswell said that if the White House, CIA and Defense all supported Walters he would undoubtedly be confirmed, but it "might get pretty bloody."

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JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Original - Subject

1 - Chrono

1 - Sen. Armed Services

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